



# On a Collection of Rove Beetles (*Coleoptera* : *staphylinidae*) from Dudhwa National Park, Uttar Pradesh, India

A. Sar and V. D. Hegde\*

Zoological Survey of India, New Alipore, M-block, Kolkata-53.

\*Email: [hegde67@yahoo.co.in](mailto:hegde67@yahoo.co.in)

## Introduction

Staphylinidae is one of the largest families of the Super family Staphylinoidea, distributed throughout the world. About 30,000 species are known from the world and more than 3000 species have been recorded so far from India. Motschulsky (1858), Kraatz (1859), Fauvel (1895) and Bernhauer (1915) are the pioneer workers of the family Staphylinidae. Prior to Cameron's work on fauna of British India series (1930, 1931, 1932) major works have been done by authors mentioned above.

Dudhwa National Park (DNP) is situated at Indo-Nepal border of Lakhimpur-Kheri district and is located in the Terai ecosystem of Uttar Pradesh. The presence of a number of shallow lakes or *Taals* represents a highly diverse and productive fauna. The Bankeytaal and Bhaditaal are the most important lakes. The National park is divided into six ranges namely Dudhwa, Bankati, North Sonaripur, South Sonaripur, Sathiyana and Belarayan. Since there is no report on the Staphylinidae fauna of DNP, here is an attempt to throw some light on the same. All the reported species are new records to the DNP.

## Materials and Methods

The present study on the family Staphylinidae is based on the collection brought from different parts of DNP by V.D. Hegde & party from Zoological Survey of India in the year 2011 and 2013. The specimens were mainly collected in the forests, by hand picking, dusting and light trapping method was also used during night. The materials collected are sorted out, set- pinned, studied and identified.

The identification is mainly based on the differences in the morphological characters and the structure of the male genitalia. All the identified collections are deposited in National Zoological Collection of Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata.

## Systematic Account

Family : **Staphylinidae**

Subfamily 1. **Paederinae**

Tribe : Paederini

Genus : 1. **Paederus** Fabricious

1. *P. fuscipes* Curtis, 1823-40.
2. *P. himalayicus* Bernh., 1914
3. *P. atrocyaneus* Champ.

Genus 2. **Astenus** Steph

4. *A. gracilentus* Fauv., 1879-80
5. *A. melanurus* (Kust) 1931
6. *A. pulchripennis* Cameron 1931
7. *A. bispinus* Motsch
8. *A. marginalis* Cameron, 1931
9. *A. leptocerus* Epp.

Genus 3. **Lathrobium** Gravenhorst

10. *L. triste* Cameron

Subfamily 2 - **Staphylininae**

Genus 4. **Philonthus** Curtis

11. *P. rotundicollis* Menet.

Subfamily- **Tachyporinae**

Tribe - Tachyporini



Genus 5. **Conosoma** Kraatz

12. *Conosoma subgracile* Cam.

Genus : **Tachyporus**

13. *Tachyporus himalayicus* Bernh.

Subfamily 3 -**Steninae**

14. *S. (H) pictus* Mostch.

Genus 6 **Stenus** Latreille

15. *S. (H) wasmanni* Fauv.

16. *S. kraatzi* Bernh.

## Species details

Genus : **Paederus** Fabricious 1775

1. **Paederus fuscipes** Curtis, 1823-40

1823-40. *Paederus fuscipes* Curtis, Ent. Brit., 3:108.

1867. *Paederus erichsoni* Woll., Col. Hesperid., :247.

1931. *Paederus fuscipes*: Cameron, *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)*, 2:40-41.

**Material examined:** 2 exs., India: Uttar Pradesh, DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Sathyana, 27.ii.2011, ex.'Elephant dung'.

**Distribution:** Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Meghalaya, and Tripura.

2. **Paederus himalayicus** Bernh.

1914. *Paederus himalayicus* Bernhauer, W.Z.B.,:64-98.

1911. *Paederus indicus* Bernhauer, Ent. Blatt.,7:61.

1931. *Paederus himalayicus* Cameron, *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)*, 2:39-40.

**Material examined:** 2 exs., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, 26.ii.2011, ex.'By dusting'.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, West Bengal and Himachal Pradesh.

3. **Paederus atrocyaneus** Champ.

927. *Paederus atrocyaneus* Champion, Ent. Monthly Mag., 63: 50.

1931. *Paederus atrocyaneus*: Cameron, *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)*, 2:50.

**Material examined:** 2 exs., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Sathiyana, 27.ii.2011, ex.'Elephant dung'.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Genus : **Astenus** Steph, 1832

4. **Astenus gracilentus** Fauv.

1859. *Sunius gracilis* Kraatz., Arch. Naturgesch., 25(1): 147.

1879-80. *Astenus gracilentus* Fauvel, Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., 15:83.

1931. *Astenus gracilentus*: *The Fauna of British India including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)*, 2:84-85.

**Material examined:** 1 ex., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, ; 26.ii.2011, ex.'By dusting'.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Elsewhere: Bangladesh and Singapore.

5. **Astenus melanurus** (Kust)

1853. *Sunius melanurus* Kust., Kaf. Eur., 26:76  
1904. *Astenus apicalis* var. *subnotatus* Fauvel, Rev. d'Ent., 23:51.

1931. *Astenus melanurus* var. *subnotatus* : Cameron, *The Fauna of British India including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)*, 2:86-87.

**Material examined:** 2 exs., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, 26.ii.2011, ex.'By dusting'.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, West Bengal, and Maharashtra. Elsewhere: Mediterranean, Canary Islands, South Africa and Java.

6. **Astenus pulchripennis** Cameron

1931. *Astenus pulchripennis* Cameron, *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and*



Burma (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae), 2:76-77.

**Material examined:** 1 ex., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Sathiyana, N 28°32'6" E 80°32' 30" 01.iii.2013.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

7. **Astenus bispinus** Motsch.

1858. *Sunius bispinus* Motschulsky, Bull. Mosc., 31(2): 636.

1859. *Sunius major* Kraatz, Arch. Naturgesch., 25(1): 146.

1931. *Astenus bispinus* : Cameron, *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera : Staphylinidae)*, 2 : 70.

**Material examined:** 2 exs., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Sathiyana, N 28° 32'6" E 80° 32' 30", 28.ii.2011, and 2 ex., 1.iii. 2013.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu. Elsewhere: Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Sumatra, and Annam.

8. **Astenus marginalis** Cameron

1931. *Astenus pulchripennis* Cameron, *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)*, 2:77-78.

**Material examined:** 1 ex., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Sathiyana, N 28° 32'6"E 80°32'30", 01.iii.2013.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

9. *Astenus leptocerus* (Eppelsheim)

1895. *Sunius leptocerus* Eppelsheim, W.E.Z., 14:64.

1931. *Astenus leptocerus*: The fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae), 2:75-76.

**Material examined** : 2 exs., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Sathiyana, 28° 30'6" E 80°32'30", 01.iii.2013.

**Distribution: India:** Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Genus: **Lathrobium**

10. **Lathrobium triste** Cameron

1924. *Lathrobium (Lathrobium) triste* Cameron,

Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond., :193.

1931. *Lathrobium triste* Cameron: *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera : Staphylinidae)*, 2 : 199-201.

**Material examined:** 1 ex., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Belryana, N. 28°23'40" E 80°54' 40.6" 28.ii.2013.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal.

11. **Philonthus rotundicollis** Menet

1832. *Philonthus rotundicollis* Menet, Cat. rais.; 145.

1932. *Philonthus rotundicollis* Cameron, *The fauna of British India, incl. Ceylon & Burma (Col.: Staphylinidae)*, 3: 84.

**Material examined:** 1 ex., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Gauri fanta, 28° 38'53"E 80°34' 12", 26.ii.2013.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh: Uttar Pradesh and Tripura. Elsewhere: Pamirs.

12. **Conosoma gracile** Cam.

1859. *Conosoma gracile* Kr., Arch. Naturg. 25:62

1932. *Conosoma gracile* Cameron, *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)*, 3 : 358.

**Material examined:** 1ex., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist., Belryana, N 28°23'40"E 80°54' 40.6", 23.II.2013.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh.

13. **Tachyporus himalayicus** Bernh.

1918. *Tachyporus himalayicus* Bernhauer, Arch. Naturgesch., 84(A) :187.

1926. *Tachyporus nigromaculatus* Camron, Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond., : 183.

1932. *Tachyporus himalayicus* : Cameron, *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)*, 3 : 382.

**Material examined:** 1 ex., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, 26.ii.2011, ex. 'By dusting'.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh: West Bengal, Sikkim and Manipur.

14. **Stenus (H) pictus** Motsch.

1857. *Stenus pictus* Motschulsky, Bull. Mosc.



30(4): 515.

1924. *Hypostenus pictus* Champion, Entomologist's Monthly Mag., 60 : 160.

1930. *Stenus* (*Hypostenus*) *pictus*: Chameron, *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera :Staphylinidae)*,1:351-352.

**Material examined:** 1ex., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Gauri fanta,N 28°33'53"E 80°34'12", 26.ii.2013.

Distribution: India: Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu.

15. ***Stenus (H) wasmanni*** Fauv.

1895. *Stenus wasmanni* Fauvel, Rev. d'Ent., 14 : 214.

1930. *Stenus* (*Hypostenus*) *wasmanni* : Cameron, *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma (Coleoptera : Staphylinidae)* 1 :376-377.

**Material examined:** 1 ex., India: Uttar Pradesh: DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Gauri fanta, N 28°33'53"E 80°34'12", 26.ii.2013.

**Distribution:** India: Uttar Pradesh: West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Sikkim. Elsewhere: Myanmar.

16. ***Stenus kraatzi*** Bernh.

1911. *Stenus kraatzi* Bernh., Ent. Blatt.,vii, p.59.

1920. *Stenus bidentatus* Champ.,E,M,M. 56 P.170

1930. *Stenus kraatzi* Cameron: *The Fauna of British India including Ceylon and Burma ( Coleoptera : Staphylinidae)* 1: 322-323.

**Material examined:**2 exs., India: Uttar Pradesh, DNP, Lakhimpur Kheri dist, Belryana, N 28°23'40"E 80°54' 40.6", 26.ii.2013.

Distribution: India: Uttar Pradesh: Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

## Results

This study is based on 25 examples comprising 16 species under 6 genera and 3 subfamilies. The subfamilies, tribes, genera, species, and distributional data of each species of the family Staphylinidae for DNP have been provided. All the species reported here are the new records to DNP.

## Acknowledgements

Authors are grateful to Dr. K. Venkataraman, Director, Zoological Survey of India for providing laboratory facilities. Thanks are also due to Dr. Kailash Chandra, Additional Director, for encouragement. We are very much thankful to PCCF (Wildlife) Uttar Pradesh for granting the permission to survey and collect the samples and Shri Ganesh Bhat, Deputy Director of DNP for his help during the survey. Thanks are also due to staff of the Coleoptera section for their co-operation and help.

## References

- Bernhauer, M. 1915. Zur Staphyliniden Fauna des Indo-Malayischen Gebietes, insbedonders des Himalaya. Coleopterologische Rundschau, 4: 49-60.
- Biswas, D.N. and Biswas, S. 1995. Insecta: Coleoptera: Staphylinidae. Zool. Surv. India, Fauna of West Bengal, State Fauna Series, 3(Part 6A) : 201-361
- Cameron, M. 1930. The fauna of British India, incl. Ceylon & Burma (Col.: Staphylinidae), 1: London V+ 471pp, 3 Pl. 1map.
- Cameron, M. 1931. The fauna of British India, incl. Ceylon & Burma (Col.: Staphylinidae), 2: London 111+ 257, 2 Pl.
- Cameron, M. 1932. The fauna of British India, incl. Ceylon & Burma (Col.: Staphylinidae), 3: London V+ 443pp, 4 Pl.
- Fauvel, A. 1895. Staphylinidae nouveaux de l'Inde et, de la Malaisie. Rev. d'Ent. Caen, 14 : 180-286.
- Kraatz, G. 1859. Staphylinen- Faunavon Ostindien, insbesondere der insel Ceylon, Archiv. Fur Naturgeschichete, 25 : 1-193, 3 Pl., Sep. Berlin, 196 pp., 3 pl.
- Motschulsky, V. 1858. Enumeration des nouvelles especes de Coleopteres rapports de ses voyages (Continuation Bull. de la Societe Imperiale des naturalistes de moscou. 31 (2) : 634-670
- Rougemont, G. de. 1986. Revision of the genus *Stiliderus* Motschulsky, 1858, Part II: The species with bilobed IVth tarsomeres (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Paederinae). Ent. Abh. Mus. Tierk. Dresden, 50 (2): 33-58